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<http://in.christiantoday.com/articles/orissa-christians-reject-uscirf-report-defends-india/4382.htm>

The **United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF)** last week criticized India for its inadequate response in protecting religious minorities and placed it in the category of nations that includes countries like Afghanistan, Somalia and Cuba.

Stating that India is truly secular in letter and spirit, Archbishop Raphael Cheenath of Cuttack-Bhubaneswar, rejected the report and said there should be "no doubt over the secular credentials of India".

The 14-page report by the US Congressional Panel referred to last year's violence against Christians in Orissa and said it had "sparked a prolonged and destructive campaign targeting Christians, resulting in attacks against churches and individuals."